Bible & Daily Living

On future and past

By WILLIAM TRIMYER

Recently I heard a TV character say, "I can't know when I am going until I know where I've come from." There is profound wisdom in that saying. We cannot move forward without being in touch with our past. This does not necessarily imply that our future is dictated by our past, but it does mean that our future is certainly influenced by the past. We are products of a former heritage which has some influence upon the direction our lives will take.

On several occasions Moses had to remind the Israelite people of their religious roots. He also had to review God's former activities and how disobedience kept many Hebrew people from reaching the promised land of Canaan.

Obedience to the Commandments [Deut. 4:1-4]

In my life and your's there are hallmark events that stand out in our memory. We return to these events time and time again to provide us with courage and inspiration. At times those past events serve as a judgment against our present behaviour.

Moses often referred to the past events in Israel's history as a means of judging present behavior or for inspiring God's people to march bravely onward. Moses often reviewed the incidents of Egypt, Sinai and the wilderness wanderings to bring the people back in line with God's purposes.

Moses elevated the law and reminded the people to follow the law with a deep sense of obedience. Moses knew that following the law would mean longer living, staying in good graces with Yahweh, influence other nations, and surpass all other earthly statutes. In addition, the laws of God are competent for governing all of life. **An Example To The Nations [Deut. 4:5-8]**

There is always a payoff in following the laws and commandments of God. An individual who lives a righteous life becomes a source of inspiration and judgment for others. The nation that trusts in God provides an example to other nations. Any glory or honor that comes from righteous living is naturally directed towards God, for it is he that forms the basis of all things.

The United States was founded upon the religious principle of "In God We Trust." In some ways and in the minds of some this principle is reversed, that is, "In We God Trust." Our nation has been blessed with bountiful prosperity. We must never forget our responsibility to the poor and broken humanity around the globe.

A Good Memory [Deut. 4:9-10]

Someone once said that "memories are like roses in winter." We might amend that to read, "Good memories are like roses in winter." Quite honestly, there are some events in life that we would just as soon forget. Such events may bring unpleasant memories to mind which cause us much emotional pain. But memory, and the capacity for memory, serves a vital function.

There is a tendency to be forgetful over past events, particularly those events which arouse our grief or embarrassment. Some of our hardest lessons have come from the "University of Hard Knocks." Some people would rather forget the Depression years or the bygone wars, which in many instances is quite natural.

Memory of the past, however, may serve as a reminder of how not to be or what not to do. The commandments of God are as essential for today's living as they were for the early Hebrew. Rejection or failure to acknowledge God's commandments upon one's life can bring about negative results.

God is not out to "blast" his people but to bless them. The failure to remember the past may cause us much unneeded and unwanted pain in the future. Memory is a powerful adversary or a powerful friend. A good memory will aid us in our earthly pilgrimage. Memory enables us to reach back and recapture the magnificient moments of our personal and spiritual past to give us hope and courage to tread the next few steps of the journey.

Jesus instituted the "last supper" as a lasting memorial to his life and mission on earth. Each time we participate in the supper we exercise the gift of memory. Thus, memory serves as a spark to keep the fires of life lit.

Dr. Trimyer is Chaplain at Burkham Hospital in Champaign, Illinois (WLYP).

Carnival planned

Elon Baptist Church in Pamplin will hold a carnival to promote vacation Bible School on Sat., June 20 from 1-4 p.m. There will be games, clowns, special booths, decorated bicycles which will be judged and tricycle races.

Vacation Bible School will start on June 22 through 26 from 9-12 a.m. for ages 2 yrs. to 6 grade.

The Pastor Speaks

By EDWARD LEONARD
Memorial United Methodist Church
Appomattox, Va.

Israel's experience after escape from slavery in Egypt was wilderness. Around Sinai, they were in a barren, uninhabited, pathless desert region. They were lost. They were so unsure of where they were going that they ready to go back to the certainty of slavery. They were also in a wilderness of spirit. They had no sense of identity, knowing who they were, and belonging, knowing to whom they belong.

The first thing God did in giving them the rule of life was to answer these two questions. The first four commandments tell them who is God, who they are and to whom they belong.

Our lives are incomplete unless we have some concept of beginning and end. St. Augustine said, "My soul is restless until it finds its rest in Thee, O God." The Commandments are a witness and a guide that our beginning and ending are in God.

A simple prayer petitions:
God be in my head,
And in my understanding;
God be in mine eyes,
And in my looking;
God be in my mouth,
And in my speaking;
God be in my heart,
And in my thinking;
God be at mine end,
And at my departing.
Amen.

God alone is worthy of our worship and absolute obedience.

The worst idolatry in life is to think God belongs to me, instead of me belonging to God. The worst idolatry is to think we can possess God for our own goals and purposes. We can possess things but we cannot possess God.

The other form of idolatry that is most common is to let things possess us. That is to sell the soul for the world and the perishible treasures of it. It can be bold as the idolatry of wealth and power or subtle as the slavery of fame or pleasure.

We get this all turned around in our personal relationships with others as well as with God. We do it when we treat people as things instead of persons. We do it when we say "I love" that thing. Love is sacrificial giving of self and it is beneficial to our salvation only in relation to God and persons. Loving things does nothing for our soul or salvation.

The first four commandments are God's rules for keeping our lives straight in relationship to God. Break the rules and we lose the foundation for life itself, for the Bible witnesses that it was God who breathed into our very bodies the breath of life.

The rules of faith concern putting God first, getting and keeping our priorities straight. If I can be right with God then relations with others and the world can be right. That is a reasonable and possible and faithful hope.

You shall have no other Gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a graven image... nor bow down to them and serve them. You shall not take that thing. Love is sacrificial giving of self and it is beneficial to our salvation only in relation

Bible School slated

Bible School - New Hope Baptist Church, June 21 - 25 from 6:30 to 9:15 p.m.

Everyone from preschool through 12th grade is invited to attend. We will be studying about loving one another, learning about the Bible, and understanding the Bible as God's word.

We have also planned special arts and crafts.

Farmers slates meeting

There will be a planning meeting Monday, June 22, at 7:30 p.m. at the Farmers National Bank board room (Plaza Branch) for the class of 1956 of Appomattox High School.

The purpose of the meeting is to finalize plans for the class' 25th-year reunion. All class members interested are invited to attend.

Pamplin AARP meets, hears Ray Noble talk

The Pamplin Chapter of AARP met on Tuesday at Pamplin United Methodist Church. After lunch Mr. Ray Noble of Appomattox spoke on services rendered by Appomattox Rescue Squad.

Recent guest of Mrs. Alice Cash Adams were Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Joyner of Franklin, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Jamerson spent Sunday with their aunt, Miss Minnie Coles at Friendship Manor, Roanoke.

John B. Covington II entered University of Virginia Hospital on June 7 for surgery on June 8, we wish him a speedy recovery.

Mr. Thomas E. Caldwell was admitted to Lynchburg General Hospital last Saturday, his condition is reported serious.

Mr. Clayton Beale and Wesley Beale are patients in Virginia Baptist Hospital.

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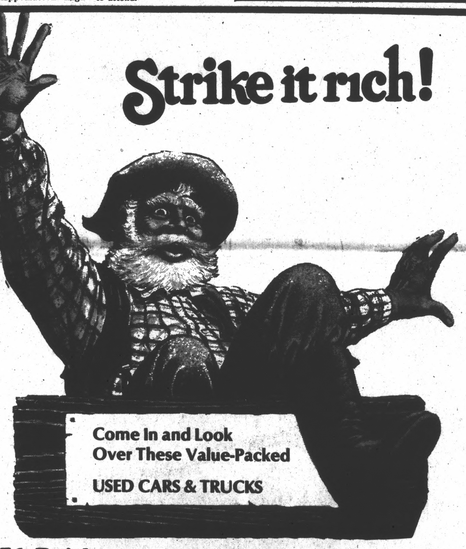

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1974 Oldsmobile - 98 Regency - Brown - Power Windows - Power Door Locks - Power Seats- Cruise Control-Tilt Wheel -AM/ FM Radio - Air Conditioned

1979 Chevrolet — Impala Station Wagon - Green - Camel Vinyl Interior - Luggage Rack - Air Conditioned - AM Radio - 305 V-8 New Tires - Real Good Car

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1978 El Camino - Black - Camel - Vinyl Interior - S.Sport Pkg. - Air Conditioned - Rally Wheels - AM/FM Stereo -W / tape Side Rails - Cruise Control

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ASCS Today

By TOM CONRAD

Acreage Reports Due June 30

Appomattox County farmers who have not filed an acreage report with the ASCS office have until June 30 to do so.

"Since there are no set-aside requirements or normal crop acreage limitations, all farmers who report the sizes and intended uses of their corn and/or grain sorghum will be eligible for program benefits. They may also sign an application for payments when they report crop acres.

As of June 12, 1981, 317 farmers in the county had reported fall-seeded and spring-seeded crops. These farmers will be eligible for deficiency and disaster payments.

To avoid eligibility problems, farmers should report as accurately as possible. ASCS will randomly check farms to verify that acreage reports are correct and also provide aerial photographs for farmers to identify their fields.

The ASCS official said farmers may request measurement service to be sure that their crop acreages are accurate. The minimum cost is $14.50 and the measurements are guaranteed. Farmers who use this service will avoid unnecessary worry about the loss of 1981 program benefits.

The county ASCS office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Farmers who have not certified their program crops are urged to do so as soon as possible.

Virginia's 1980 Tobacco Crop Valued at $155,720 Thousand -

Virginia farmers produced 106,791 thousand pounds of tobacco last year, 2,812 thousand pounds less than the previous year, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture's May 11 crop production report.

Valued at $155,720 thousand, the 1980 tobacco crop was harvested from 72,800 acres with an average yield of 1,636 pounds per acre.

Last year's tobacco production brought farmers an average price of $145.8 cents per pound for their crop, compared with 139.6 cents per pound for the 67,530-acre 1979 crop.

According to the report, 1980 farm quotas were down 6 percent for flue-cured and up 11 percent for burley. The quotas imply that tobacco growers may keep this year's plantings about the same as the 915,000 acres harvested last year.

Price support for eligible tobacco will be about 12 percent higher than last year because of the formula that reflects changes in prices farmers pay. Price support will be available to eligible growers through nonrecourse loans to producer associations.

To receive price supports, tobacco producers must certify that they did not use DDT, TDE, toxaphene or endrin insecticides. Tobacco producers with acreage allotments or acreage poundage marketing quotas are required to certify their planted acreage.

U. S. tobacco exports were valued at a record $2.43 billion in calendar year 1980, 13 percent above the 1978's previous high. This figure includes unmanufactured tobacco worth $1.3 billion and tobacco products valued at $1.1 billion. Tobacco imports totaled $487 million, leaving a record trade balance of $1.9 billion.

Wilbun's SUPERMARKET

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Duke's Relish Spread 16-oz. Jar 69¢

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USDA CHOICE Western BEEF Arm ROAST $1.59 lb.
USDA CHOICE Western BEEF Center Cut Chuck STEAKS $1.49 lb.
BEEF Short RIBS $1.29 lb.
COMBINATION (2-breast, 2-thighs, 2-drumsticks) Pack FRYERS 59¢ lb.
SWIFT'NEY Meat BOLOGNA $1.29 lb.
ARMOUR Meat HOT DOGS $1.19 12-oz. pkg.
Smithfield Ham SAUSAGE 99¢ 12-oz. pkg.

Bunker Hill Hot Dog CHILI 3 for $1.00 10.5-oz. Can
NABISCO RITZ "Stack Pack" CRACKERS 95¢ 12-oz. Pkg.
NABISCO Cream Sandwiches OREO'S $1.55 19-oz. Pkg.
MERITA Angel Food Cakes 10¢ off! REG. PRICE
RICHFOOD (LIMIT ONE w/ 7.50 or MORE PURCHASE!) CHARCOAL $1.19 10-lb. Bag
RICHFOOD Augratin POTATOES 59¢ 5.5-oz. Box
RICHFOOD Scalloped Potatoes 59¢ 8.5-oz. Box
ROYAL (Assort-Flavors) Gelatin 4 for $1.00 3-oz. Boxes
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